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SEGA®
SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG
PANIC IN THE SKY
#1
OF 4

Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures—a world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

CHARACTER SELECT

SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
WORLD HERO

NICOLE THE HOLO-LYNX
LIVING A.I.

CHIP/LIGHT GAIA
WORLD RESTORING SPIRIT

DR. EGGMAN WITH TAILS DOLL
MAD GENIUS AND CREEPY MINION

THE STORY SO FAR...

PANIC PLOT

Sonic and the Freedom Fighters have traveled the globe via their flying fortress, the Sky Patrol, gathering up the Chaos Emeralds and Gaia Keys needed to end the Shattered World Crisis. They're just days away from a worldwide effort to finally save the planet!

What they don't know is that Dr. Eggman has had the spy bot Tails Doll aboard the Sky Patrol for some time. Tails Doll has learned all about the Freedom Fighters' plan to save the world and passed it along to the mad genius.

And Dr. Eggman has launched a plan of his own...

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PART ONE: THE BEST LAID PLANS

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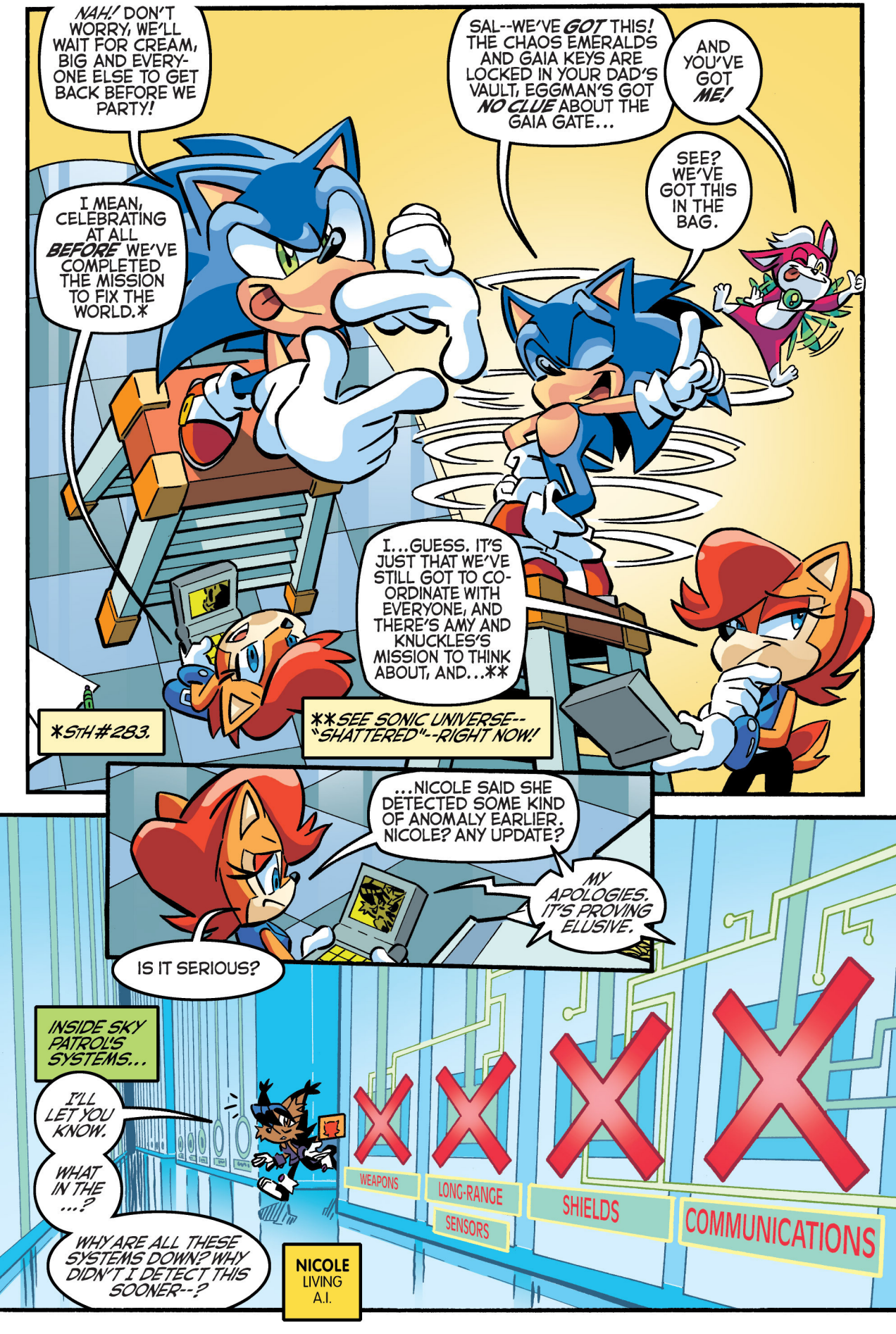
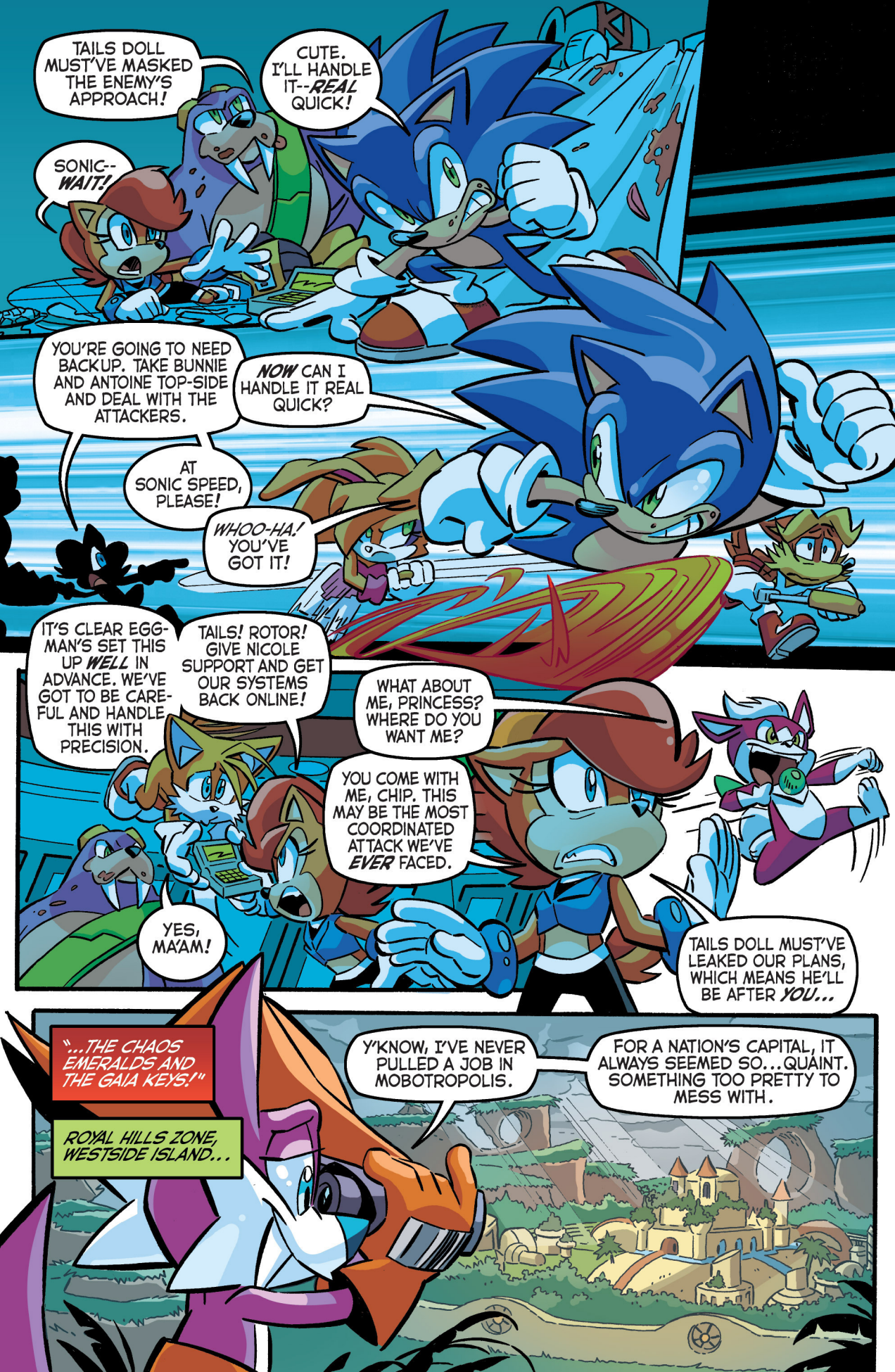
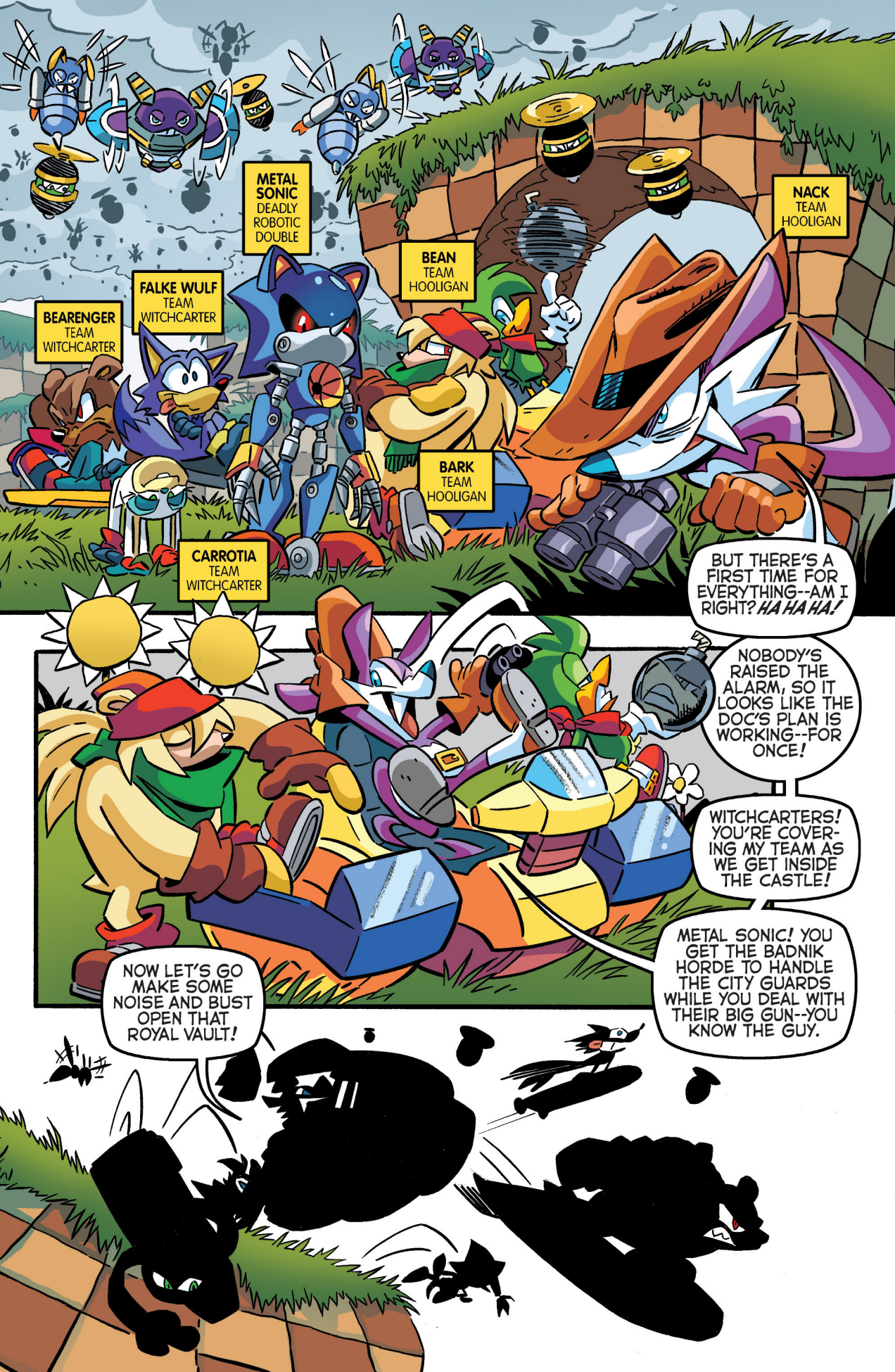
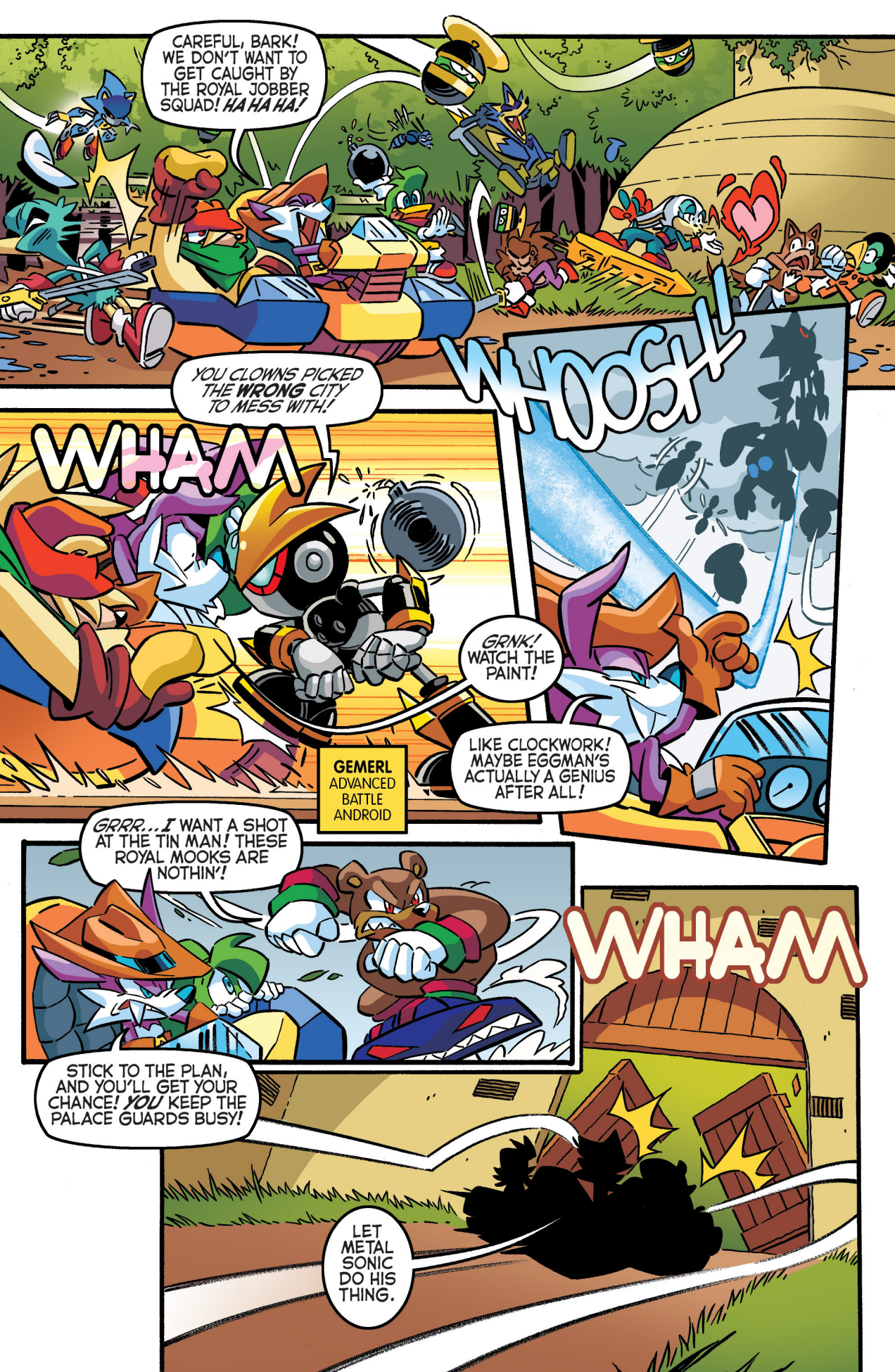

NAH! DON'T WORRY, WE'LL WAIT FOR CREAM, BIG AND EVERY-ONE ELSE TO GET BACK BEFORE WE PARTY!
I MEAN, CELEBRATING AT ALL BEFORE WE'VE COMPLETED THE MISSION TO FIX THE WORLD.*
SAL--WE'VE GOT THIS! THE CHAOS EMERALDS AND GAIA KEYS ARE LOCKED IN YOUR DAD'S VAULT, EGGMAN'S GOT NO CLUE ABOUT THE GAIA GATE...
AND YOU'VE GOT ME!
SEE? WE'VE GOT THIS IN THE BAG.
I...GUESS. IT'S JUST THAT WE'VE STILL GOT TO CO-ORDINATE WITH EVERYONE, AND THERE'S AMY AND KNUCKLES'S MISSION TO THINK ABOUT, AND...**
*STH #283.
**SEE SONIC UNIVERSE--"SHATTERED"--RIGHT NOW!
...NICOLE SAID SHE DETECTED SOME KIND OF ANOMALY EARLIER. NICOLE? ANY UPDATE?
MY APOLOGIES. IT'S PROVING ELUSIVE.
IS IT SERIOUS?
INSIDE SKY PATROL'S SYSTEMS...
I'LL LET YOU KNOW.
WHAT IN THE ...?
WHY ARE ALL THESE SYSTEMS DOWN? WHY DIDN'T I DETECT THIS SOONER--?
NICOLE LIVING A.I.
WEAPONS
LONG-RANGE SENSORS
SHIELDS
COMMUNICATIONS

...OH, NO...
IS...IS THAT A DATA LINK TO THE--?! WHAT ARE YOU--
TAILS DOLL
PLUSH INFILTRATOR (DIGITAL FORM)
HELLO AGAIN, NICOLE. IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO EXPIRE.
PHAGE
MALEVOLENT A.I.
END.
DIE.

BWOOOOOOO
IT'S TAILS DOLL! IT-- ≡SHRZK!≡
NICOLE?!
WHOOM
THE BATTLE FORTRESS FLAGSHIP OF THE BATTLE BIRD ARMADA
BOOM!
BOOM!
THAT SHOULD RATTLE THEIR CAGE. SIGNAL SPEEDY'S TEAM AND SEND THE INVASION FORCE. HIT THEM WITH EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT!
BATTLE KUKKU XV BATTLE LORD OF THE ARMADA


TAILS DOLL MUST'VE MASKED THE ENEMY'S APPROACH!
CUTE. I'LL HANDLE IT--REAL QUICK!
SONIC--WAIT!
YOU'RE GOING TO NEED BACKUP. TAKE BUNNIE AND ANTOINE TOP-SIDE AND DEAL WITH THE ATTACKERS.
NOW CAN I HANDLE IT REAL QUICK?
AT SONIC SPEED, PLEASE!
WHOO-HA! YOU'VE GOT IT!
IT'S CLEAR EGG-MAN'S SET THIS UP WELL IN ADVANCE. WE'VE GOT TO BE CARE-FUL AND HANDLE THIS WITH PRECISION.
TAILS! ROTOR! GIVE NICOLE SUPPORT AND GET OUR SYSTEMS BACK ONLINE!
WHAT ABOUT ME, PRINCESS? WHERE DO YOU WANT ME?
YOU COME WITH ME, CHIP. THIS MAY BE THE MOST COORDINATED ATTACK WE'VE EVER FACED.
YES, MA'AM!
TAILS DOLL MUST'VE LEAKED OUR PLANS, WHICH MEANS HE'LL BE AFTER YOU...
"...THE CHAOS EMERALDS AND THE GAIA KEYS!"
ROYAL HILLS ZONE, WESTSIDE ISLAND...
Y'KNOW, I'VE NEVER PULLED A JOB IN MOBOTROPOLIS.
FOR A NATION'S CAPITAL, IT ALWAYS SEEMED SO...QUAINT. SOMETHING TOO PRETTY TO MESS WITH.


METAL SONIC
DEADLY ROBOTIC DOUBLE
FALKE WULF
TEAM WITCHCARTER
BEARENGER
TEAM WITCHCARTER
BEAN
TEAM HOOLIGAN
NACK
TEAM HOOLIGAN
BARK
TEAM HOOLIGAN
CARROTIA
TEAM WITCHCARTER
BUT THERE'S A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING--AM I RIGHT? HA HA HA!
NOBODY'S RAISED THE ALARM, SO IT LOOKS LIKE THE DOC'S PLAN IS WORKING--FOR ONCE!
WITCHCARTERS! YOU'RE COVERING MY TEAM AS WE GET INSIDE THE CASTLE!
METAL SONIC! YOU GET THE BADNIK HORDE TO HANDLE THE CITY GUARDS WHILE YOU DEAL WITH THEIR BIG GUN--YOU KNOW THE GUY.
NOW LET'S GO MAKE SOME NOISE AND BUST OPEN THAT ROYAL VAULT!


CAREFUL, BARK! WE DON'T WANT TO GET CAUGHT BY THE ROYAL JOBBER SQUAD! HA HA HA!
YOU CLOWNS PICKED THE WRONG CITY TO MESS WITH!
WHAM
WHOOSH
GRNK! WATCH THE PAINT!
LIKE CLOCKWORK! MAYBE EGGMAN'S ACTUALLY A GENIUS AFTER ALL!
GEMERL ADVANCED BATTLE ANDROID
GRRR... I WANT A SHOT AT THE TIN MAN! THESE ROYAL MOOKS ARE NOTHIN'!
WHAM
STICK TO THE PLAN, AND YOU'LL GET YOUR CHANCE! YOU KEEP THE PALACE GUARDS BUSY!
LET METAL SONIC DO HIS THING.

OH, HEY! IT'S YOU! THE ORIGINAL ABILITY-STEALER WITH THE IDENTITY CRISIS!
CLONK
BOOM!
BOOM!
THIS IS GONNA LEAVE A MARK...

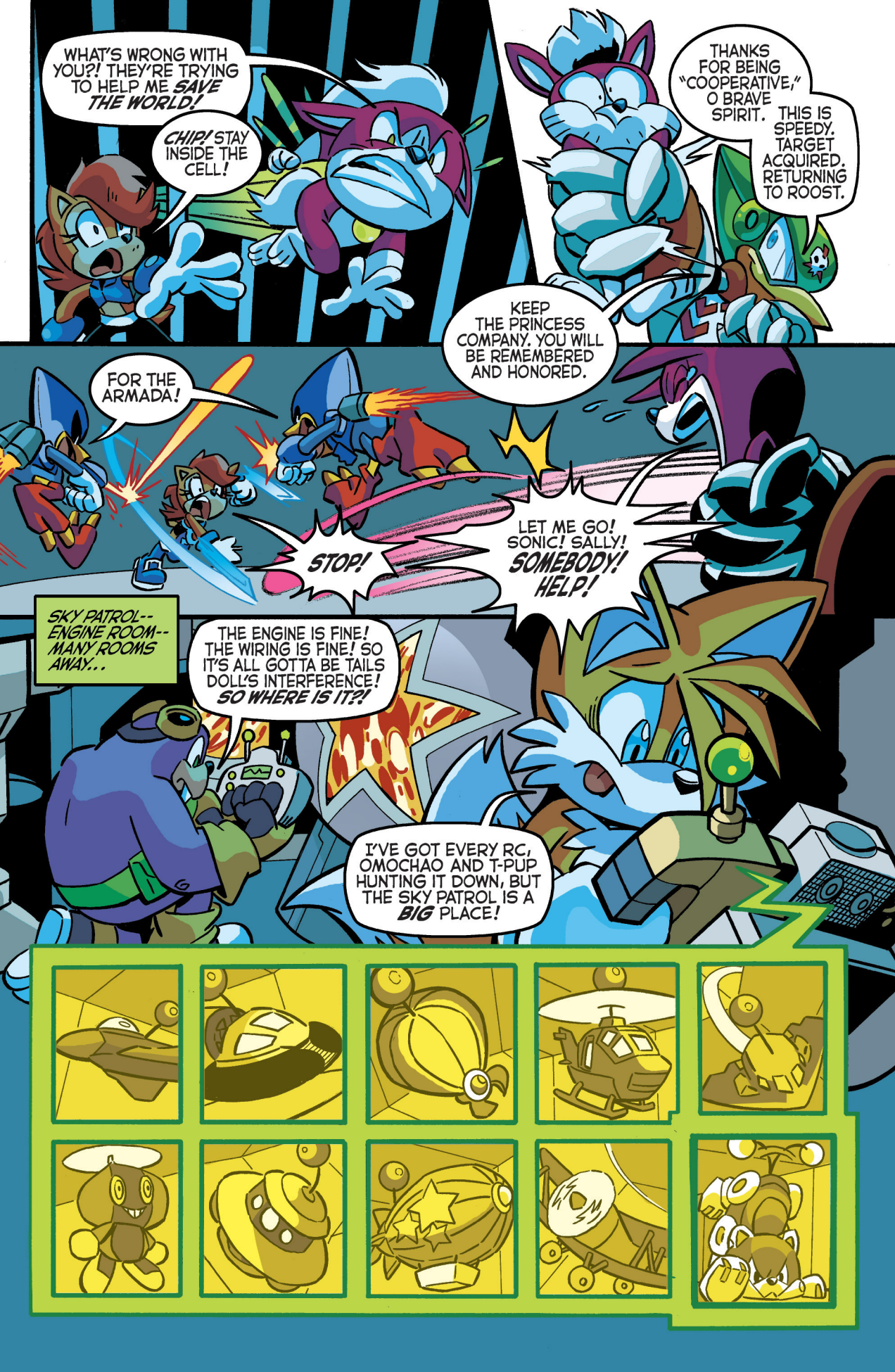
HUH? NOPE, I'VE NEVER BEEN IN HERE. BUT I'VE GOT THE INNATE TRACKING OF ANY TREASURE HUNTER!
"I'LL FIND THOSE CHAOS EMERALDS --NO PROBLEM!"
HA-HA-WHAT?! I DIDN'T EXPECT THIS! STEP ASIDE, OLD MAN. WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO.
AS DO I.
MY BRAVE SOLDIERS ARE DEFENDING MY CITY. MY TRUMP CARD HAS BEEN TRUMPED. SO THE DUTY NOW FALLS TO ME.
NOW--STEP FORWARD IF YOU DESIRE A ROYAL BEATING.
VVIIIII!
KING NIGEL ACORN
RULER OF THE ACORN ARCHIPELAGO

BEAN! BLAST THE VAULT! BARK! GIMME A HAND!
BLAM!
BLAM!
ONE VAULT, EXTRA CRISPY, COMIN' UP!
WHMPF!
CHING!
OW!
SOK!
WHEW! THANKS. HURRY IT UP WITH THE VAULT, BEAN!
RIIIIGHT... CRISPY VAULT...

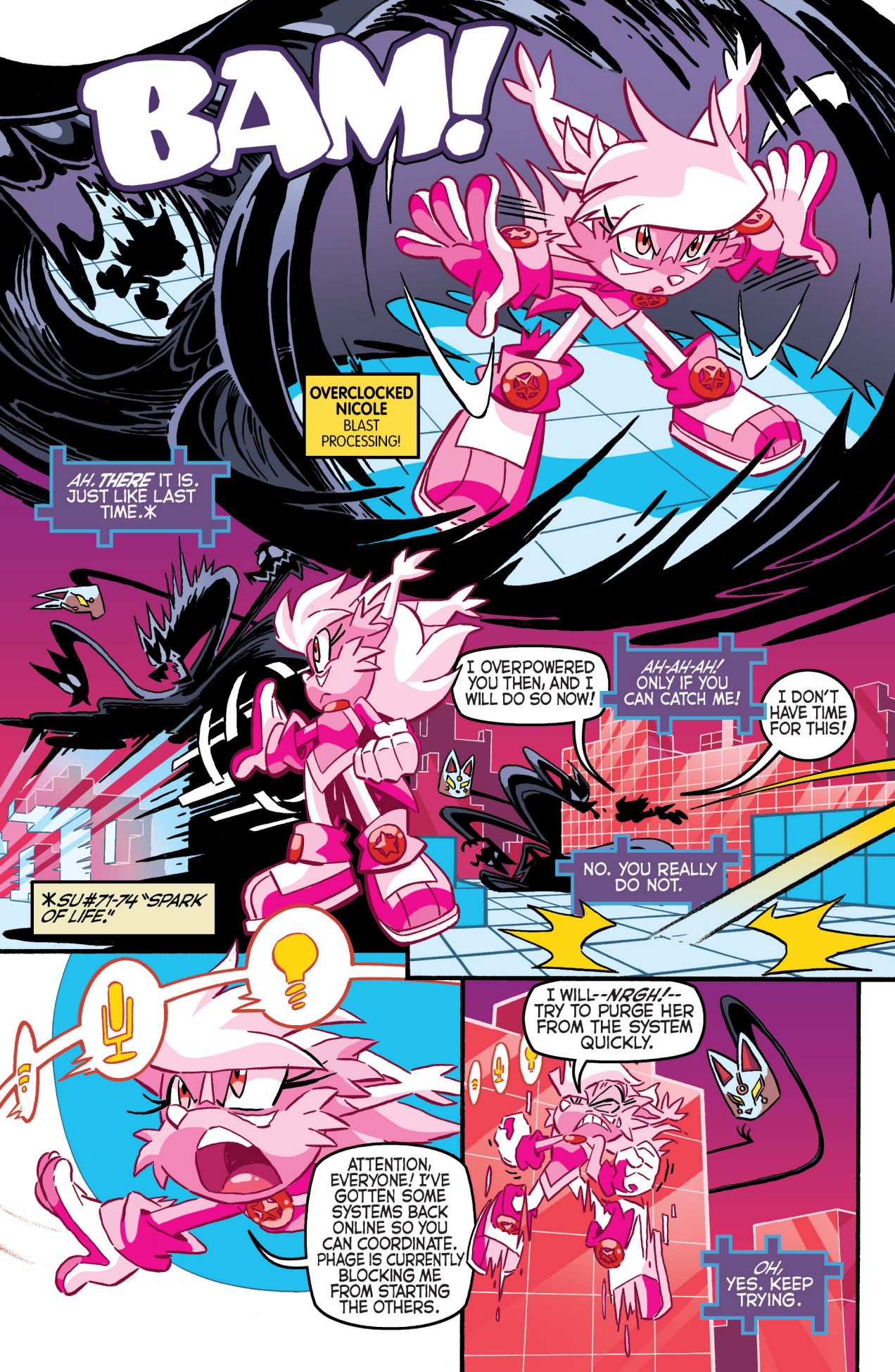
RRGH! COWARD! YOU WOULDN'T LET BADNIKS FIGHT SONIC FOR YOU!
WE GOT THE GOODS! NOW DELIVER THEM TO EGGMAN-- PRONTO!
NO!
NO!
MOVE IT! THE SIX OF US AND THE BADNIK HORDE WILL SLOW HIM DOWN!

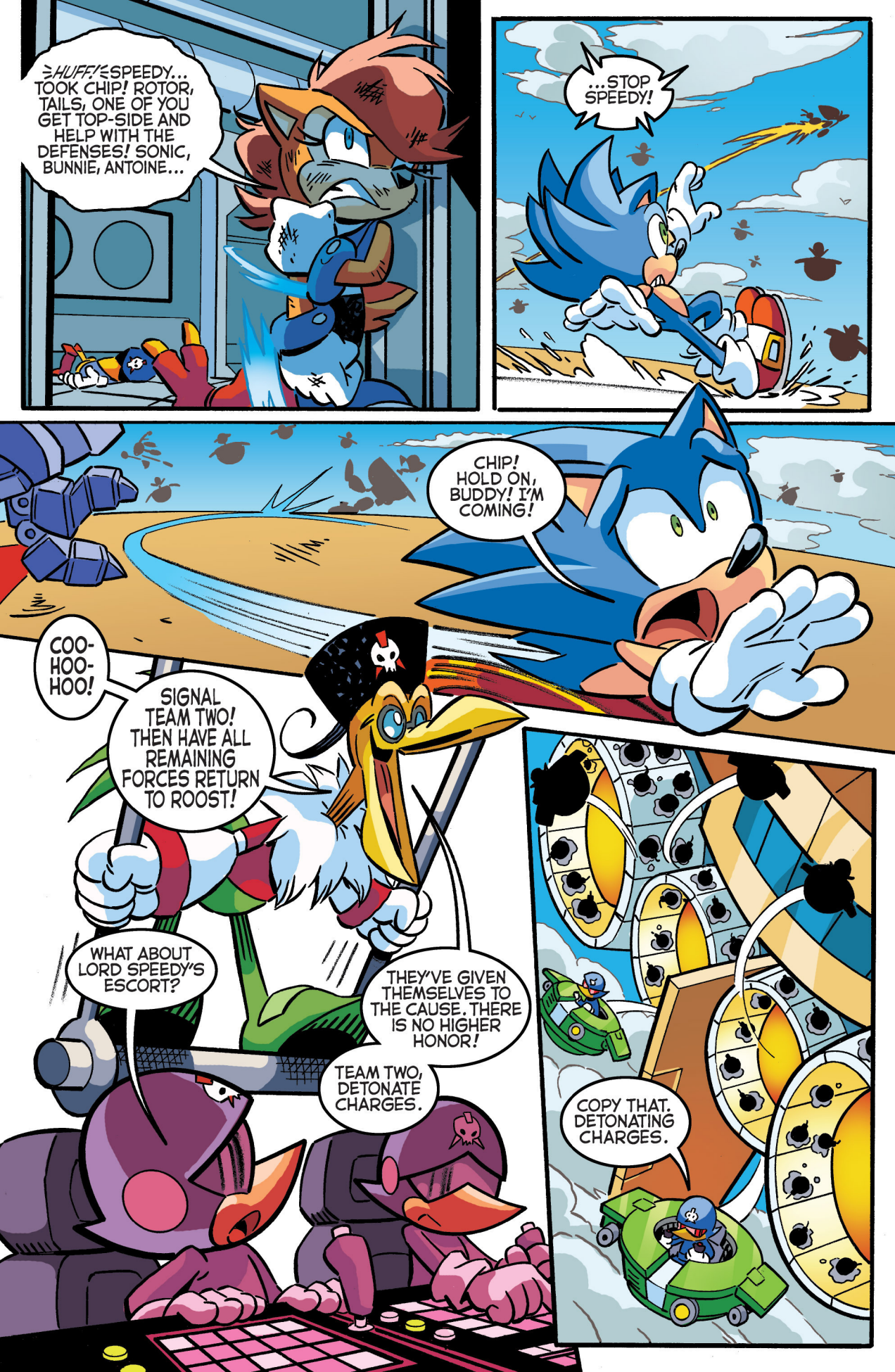
MEANWHILE, ABOARD THE SKY PATROL...
HEY, TAILS! ROTE! IF YOU'VE GOT THE COMMS UP AND RUNNING AGAIN, WE COULD REALLY USE SOME WEAPON SUPPORT UP HERE!
I AM NOT THINKING ZEY CAN HEAR US!
AH HATE TO ADMIT BEIN' OVERWHELMED, BUT...
HRRGH! GUYS! THE ARM!
SHING!
OKAY--FACT CHECK. WE HAVEN'T TANGLED WITH THE BATTLE BIRD ARMADA A LOT...
...BUT IT'S KINDA BLATANT THAT SPEEDY ISN'T THE ONE LEADING THE ATTACK.
HEY... YEAH! THERE'S NO WAY A BRAT LIKE HIM WOULD PASS THIS UP!
SO IF HE ISN'T HERE...

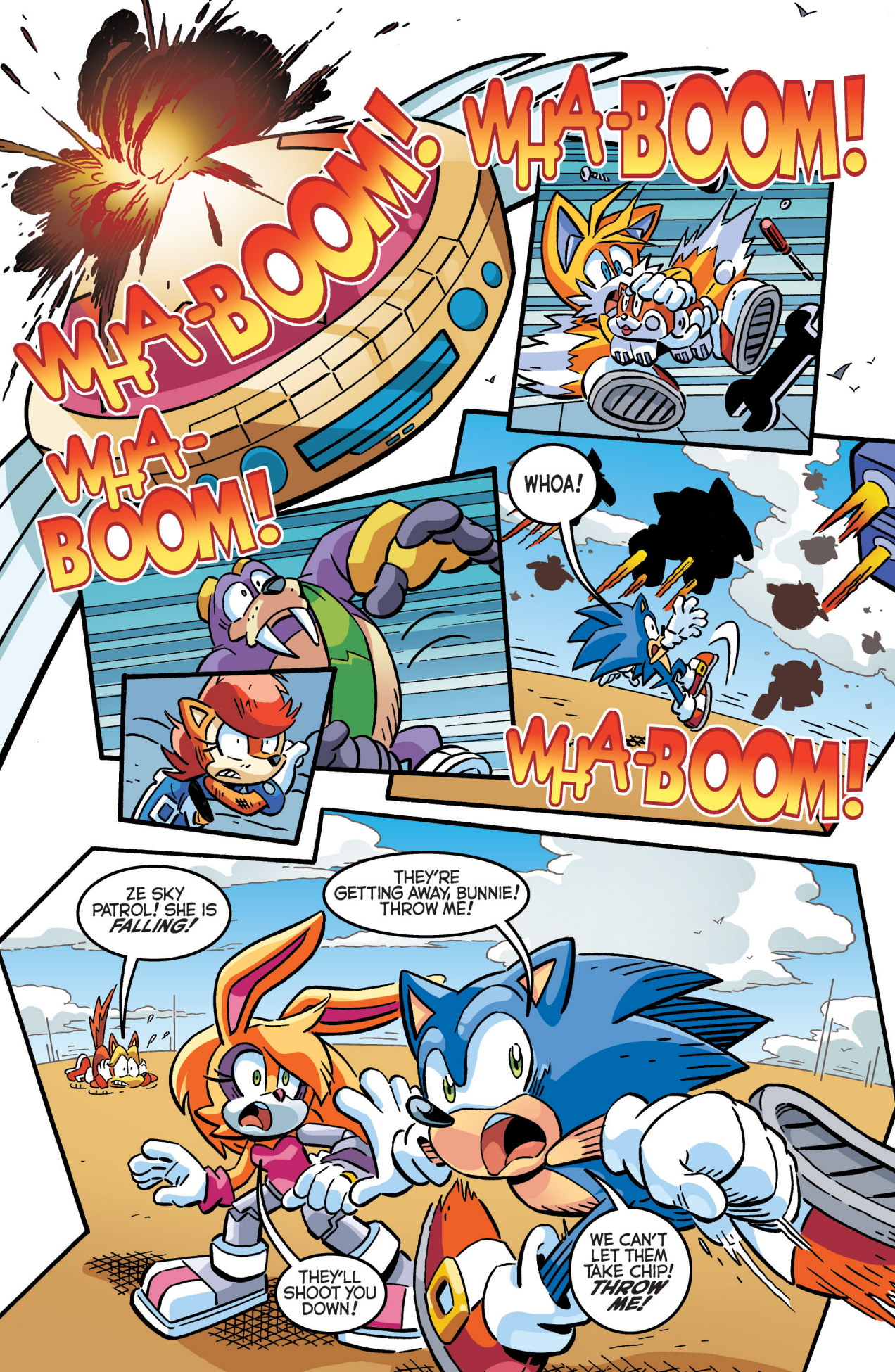
"...WHERE IS HE?"
THIS WAY?
YES, SIR. INTEL FROM TAILS DOLL SAYS TO EXPECT RESISTANCE.
SPEEDY BATTLE KUKKU XVI
SHHK KSHH
OH! THE PRINCESS HERSELF. I APPRECIATE FELLOW NOBILITY WHO'LL GET THEIR HANDS DIRTY.
CHIP IS LOCKED OUT OF REACH. I'VE DISABLED THE CONTROLS, SO TAILS DOLL CAN'T OPEN THE DOOR. WE'LL REGAIN CONTROL OF OUR SYSTEMS AT ANY MOMENT.
LEAVE-- WHILE YOU STILL HAVE A CHANCE.
SKYEW SKYEW
KZZZZT
NO!
SLAM

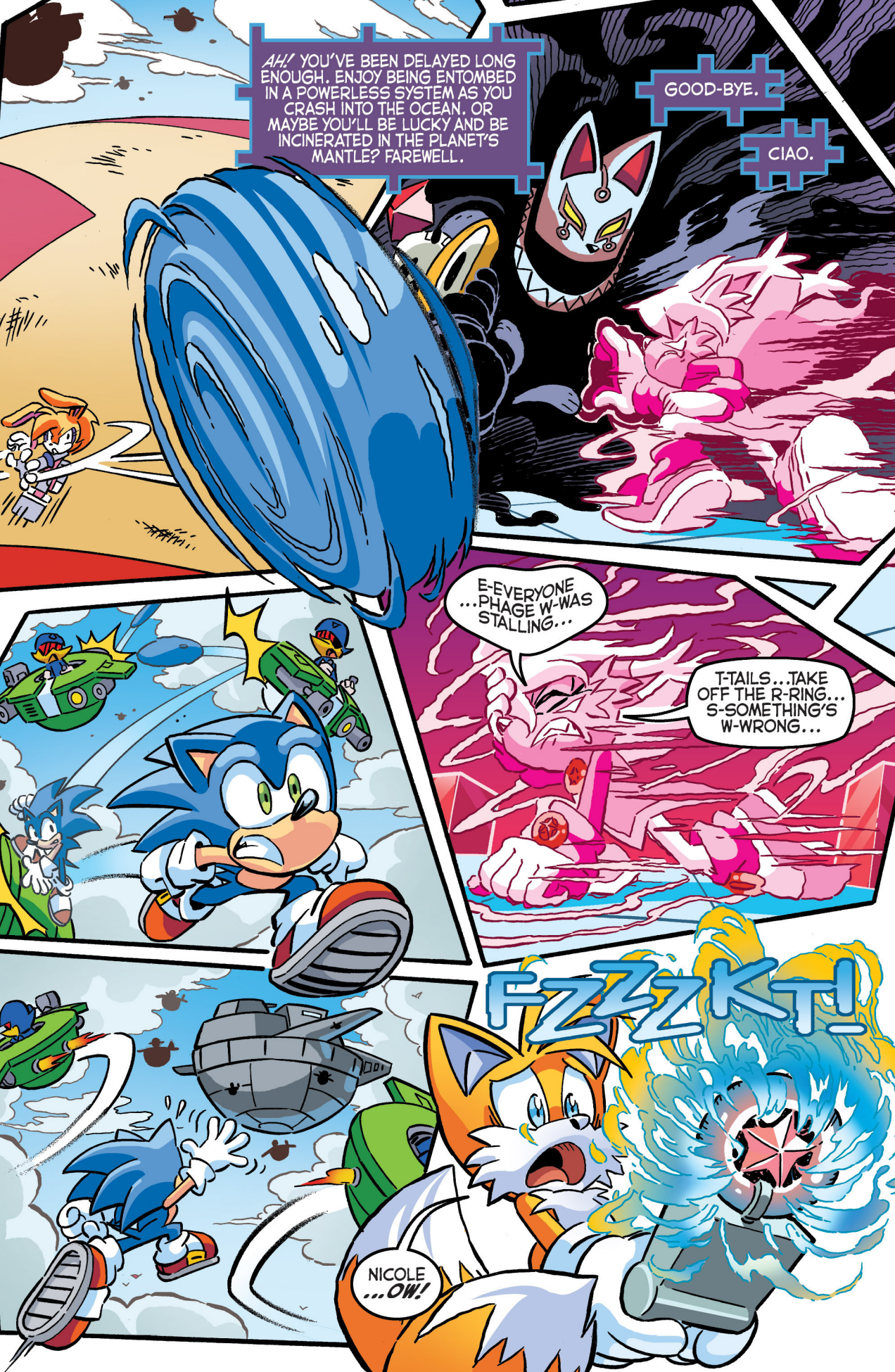

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?! THEY'RE TRYING TO HELP ME SAVE THE WORLD!
CHIP! STAY INSIDE THE CELL!
THANKS FOR BEING "COOPERATIVE," O BRAVE SPIRIT. THIS IS SPEEDY. TARGET ACQUIRED. RETURNING TO ROOST.
KEEP THE PRINCESS COMPANY. YOU WILL BE REMEMBERED AND HONORED.
FOR THE ARMADA!
STOP!
LET ME GO! SONIC! SALLY! SOMEBODY! HELP!
SKY PATROL-- ENGINE ROOM-- MANY ROOMS AWAY...
THE ENGINE IS FINE! THE WIRING IS FINE! SO IT'S ALL GOTTA BE TAILS DOLL'S INTERFERENCE! SO WHERE IS IT?!
I'VE GOT EVERY RC, OMOCHAO AND T-PUP HUNTING IT DOWN, BUT THE SKY PATROL IS A BIG PLACE!

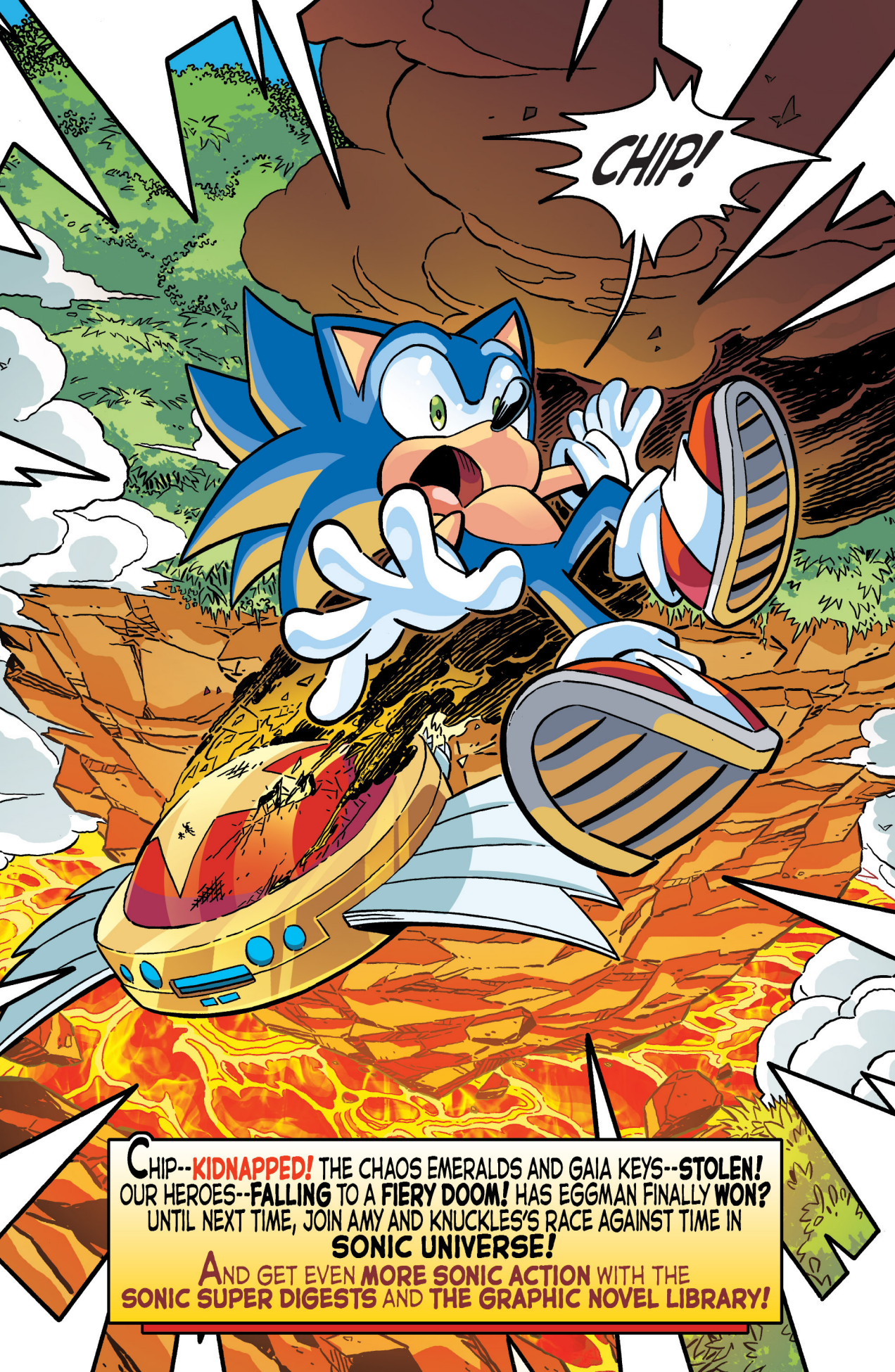
KA-CHUNK!
GRRRR!
SCHLURP-
SCHLURP-
GOOD WORK, T-PUP! THAT SHOULD FREE UP NICOLE!
I'VE SAID IT BEFORE, BUT I'LL SAY IT AGAIN. SONIC GETS METAL SONIC. I GET THAT?
HELLO?! ⩵ SHRK! ⩵ I REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE!
NICOLE! WHAT'S HAPPENING?
I NEED THE POWER OF THE RED STAR RING!
AND WE NEED PHAGE OUT SO YOU CAN GET US BACK ONLINE! RED STAR RING--COMING UP!
TAILS DOLL LET PHAGE INTO THE SKY PATROL'S SYSTEMS! I'M NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO STOP HER!
OF COURSE NOT. WITHOUT THAT CURIOUS POWER YOU WIELDED BEFORE, YOU ARE INSUFFICIENT.
INCAPABLE.
LACKING.


BAM!
OVERCLOCKED NICOLE BLAST PROCESSING!
AH. THERE IT IS. JUST LIKE LAST TIME.*
I OVERPOWERED YOU THEN, AND I WILL DO SO NOW!
AH-AH-AH! ONLY IF YOU CAN CATCH ME!
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!
NO. YOU REALLY DO NOT.
*SU #71-74 "SPARK OF LIFE."
ATTENTION, EVERYONE! I'VE GOTTEN SOME SYSTEMS BACK ONLINE SO YOU CAN COORDINATE. PHAGE IS CURRENTLY BLOCKING ME FROM STARTING THE OTHERS.
I WILL--NRGH!-- TRY TO PURGE HER FROM THE SYSTEM QUICKLY.
OH, YES. KEEP TRYING.


=HUFF!= SPEEDY... TOOK CHIP! ROTOR, TAILS, ONE OF YOU GET TOP-SIDE AND HELP WITH THE DEFENSES! SONIC, BUNNIE, ANTOINE...
...STOP SPEEDY!
CHIP! HOLD ON, BUDDY! I'M COMING!
COO-HOO-HOO!
SIGNAL TEAM TWO! THEN HAVE ALL REMAINING FORCES RETURN TO ROOST!
WHAT ABOUT LORD SPEEDY'S ESCORT?
THEY'VE GIVEN THEMSELVES TO THE CAUSE. THERE IS NO HIGHER HONOR!
TEAM TWO, DETONATE CHARGES.
COPY THAT. DETONATING CHARGES.


WHA-BOOM!
WHA-BOOM!
WHA-BOOM!
WHOA!
WHA-BOOM!
ZE SKY PATROL! SHE IS *FALLING!*
THEY'RE GETTING AWAY, BUNNIE! THROW ME!
THEY'LL SHOOT YOU DOWN!
WE CAN'T LET THEM TAKE CHIP! *THROW ME!*


AH! YOU'VE BEEN DELAYED LONG ENOUGH. ENJOY BEING ENTOMBED IN A POWERLESS SYSTEM AS YOU CRASH INTO THE OCEAN. OR MAYBE YOU'LL BE LUCKY AND BE INCINERATED IN THE PLANET'S MANTLE? FAREWELL.
GOOD-BYE.
CIAO.
E-EVERYONE ...PHAGE W-WAS STALLING...
T-TAILS...TAKE OFF THE R-RING... S-SOMETHING'S W-WRONG...
FZZZKT!
NICOLE ...OW!


CHIP!
CHIP--KIDNAPPED! THE CHAOS EMERALDS AND GAIA KEYS--STOLEN! OUR HEROES--FALLING TO A FIERY DOOM! HAS EGGMAN FINALLY WON? UNTIL NEXT TIME, JOIN AMY AND KNUCKLES'S RACE AGAINST TIME IN SONIC UNIVERSE!
AND GET EVEN MORE SONIC ACTION WITH THE SONIC SUPER DIGESTS AND THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!

Letter from the EDITOR

Editorial commentary that's worth pushing the "PANIC" button over!

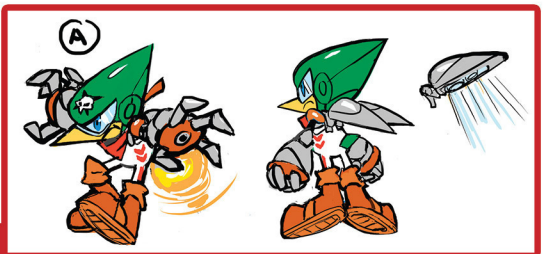
It's all come down to this...

Hey there, Sonic comic readers! Things sure aren't looking too hot for our heroes right now... well... except for maybe the lava boiling beneath them...

With the combined efforts of the Battle Bird Armada, Team Hooligan, the Witchcarters and Dr. Eggman's mechs, the odds aren't exactly in the Blue Blur's favor. Can Sonic and the Freedom Fighters pull together to save Chip, the world AND themselves? Find out NEXT TME!

'Til then, enjoy some super-sweet concept art by artist Diana Skelly! Later gators!

– Vincent "Vin" Lovallo
Editor



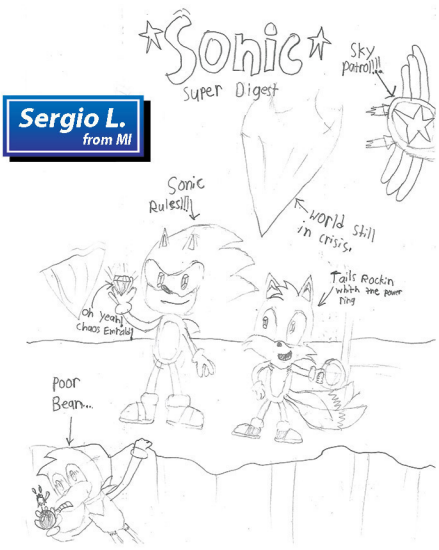
ABOVE: Speedy is one bird you don't wanna mess with, especially when he sports his exoskeleton armor!

RIGHT: King Acorn also has a few tricks up his sleeve! His energy sword and shield are unleashed to help him protect the kingdom!

SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG

SONIC GRAMS FAN ART

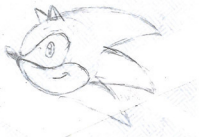
Sergio L. from MI



Helen R. from MO

Stephen N. from India

Polina B. from California



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E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM – OR TWEET AT US USING #SONICGRAMS!

OFF PANEL

SEATBELTS, EVERYONE!

HEY GUYS, ROTOR HERE. JUST WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW WE'RE COMING UP ON A POCKET OF TURBULENCE AND--
PLEASE FASTEN YOUR SEATBELT
PING
CLICK
RRRRUMBLE
thump
WHAM
thump
THUD
THANK YOU FOR FLYING WITH SKY PATROL, WHERE THE SEATBELT SIGN IS MORE THAN A POLITE SUGGESTION.

SCRIPT: *ALEAH BAKER* PENCILS: *EVAN STANLEY* INKS: *GARY MARTIN* COLORS: *ELAINA UNGER*

NEXT ISSUE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 285